IT LOOKS FANCY, BUT THIS BEEF ROAST REQUIRES LITTLE WORK {page 10}

CLOSET NERD
THERON REVEALS DETAILS OF AWKWARD YOUTH

{page 7}

WINNIPEG metro®

Wednesday, December 14, 2011
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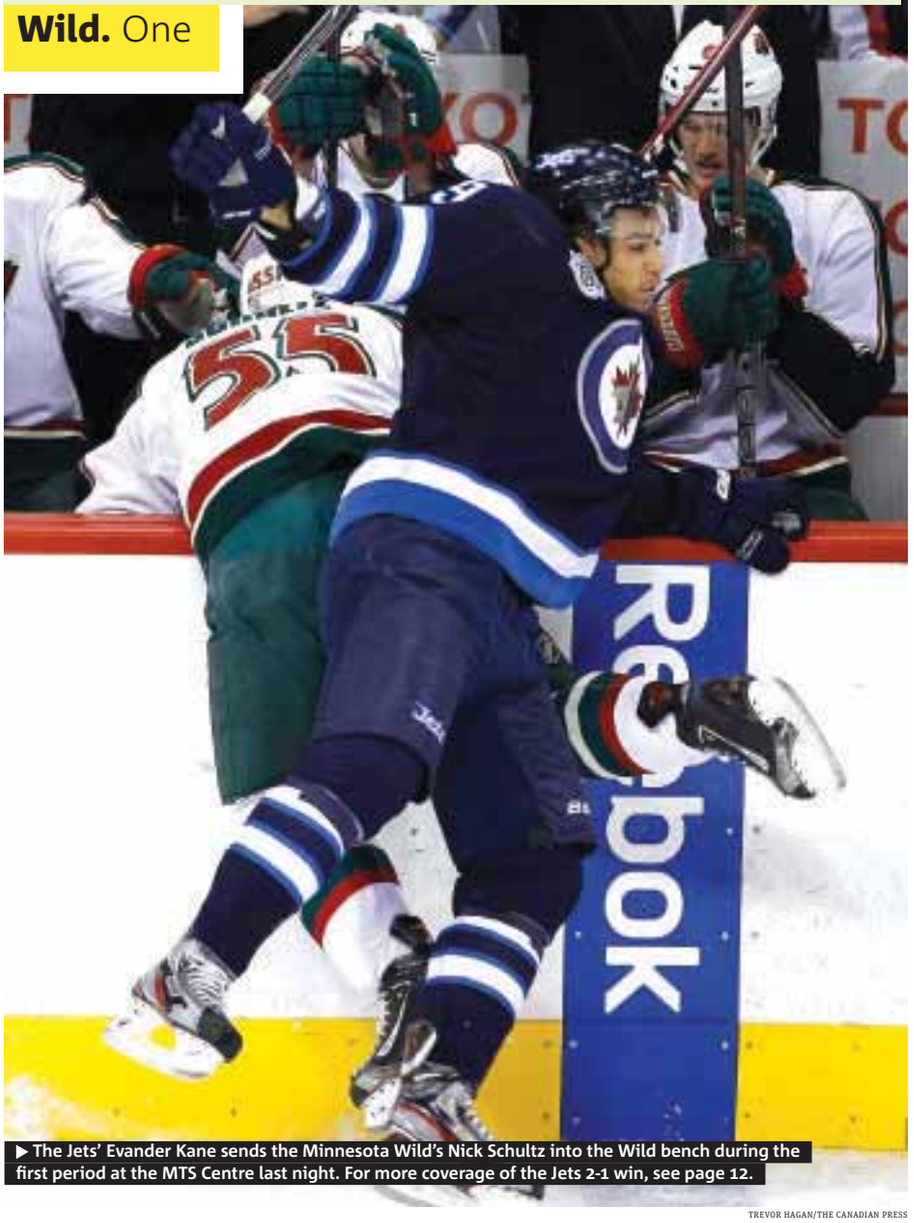

▶ The Jets' Evander Kane sends the Minnesota Wild's Nick Schultz into the Wild bench during the first period at the MTS Centre last night. For more coverage of the Jets 2-1 win, see page 12.

TREVOR HAGAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jets thrill home fans with win over Wild

Swimming ahead of the registration current

Leisure Guide class registrations staggered to keep city's online 311 services from being overwhelmed

DACEY
@METRONEWS.CA

Separating swimming lessons from all other types of recreational activities seems to have done the trick.

Ken Carpenter, recreation coordinator for the City of Winnipeg, said there was a slight decrease in wait times for those calling 311 to sign up for swimming lessons through the Leisure Guide.

"We did take down the 'system busy' notifications (on the website) earlier than before," said Carpenter.

The city decided to stagger registrations for classes and recreational activities after numerous complaints earlier this year about long wait times on 311, online and in person, to register for the fall session.

Carpenter said wait times went down the most in person, thanks to a new registration centre set up in the Louis Riel library that featured six desks to process in-person registrations.

"We seem to have hit upon something here," he said.

Charleswood father of two Ron Roland said he was able to register online without much difficulty. "I think I was in line for about 30 minutes. Last time, it was three hours, so it was a little less of a nightmare."

However, there were still glitches. St. James resident Stacy Partington said she was cut off from 311 twice. "I'm on hold, and then it suddenly cuts off. Then I'm on hold again, and it cuts off again. At first I thought it might be my phone, but it's never done that before."

Partington said on the third time she managed to sign her daughter up for swimming lessons. "I mean, I'm glad we got in but that was a bit of a waste of time. We were on the phone for about an hour."

Registration for all other classes and recreational activities begins today at Winnipeg.ca or by calling 311.

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‘Imprudent’ driving leads to arrests

A reminder to crooks: driving like an idiot is a stupid way to get caught.

Winnipeg police said they stopped a speeding car on Portage Avenue on Monday at about 12:30 p.m. near Lyle Street.

Inside the vehicle were three people from the Toronto area, said police, along with 38 counterfeit debit cards, electronics associated with credit card fraud, credit card gift cards and $10,200 cash.

Winnipeg allege the three in the car were in town to use the fake cards at local merchants.

They have been charged with numerous fraud-related offences, and they have been detained.

ELISHA DACEY

Child-death probes taking too long: Ombudsman

Manitoba’s ombudsman says it’s taking too long to investigate the deaths of children in care.

Irene Hamilton says there were 106 cases that hadn’t been looked at when the children’s advocate took over reviews in 2008. That number had grown to 186 by last March.

Hamilton says some investigations aren’t concluded until years after a child dies — making any recommendations irrelevant.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Home Run. Effort

▶ Dan Chase, director of sales and marketing for the Winnipeg Goldeyes, and mascot Goldie fill an emergency bag with food at Winnipeg Harvest yesterday morning.

SVJETLANA MLINAREVIC/FOR METRO

Goldeyes give back to Harvest

The Goldeyes packed 175 pounds of food in two hours for 35 families. The Goldeyes also donated $1,000 from their Field of Dreams Foundation to the charity.

Capital budget passes

Council increases infrastructure spending by $393 million ◐ Some decisions left until today ◐ A few committee memberships open to public

ELISHA DACEY
@METRONEWS.CA

Winnipeg’s city council passed the 2012 capital budget in a special meeting yesterday by a vote of 10-6.

Council increased infrastructure spending by $393 million over the next several years, including a $23-million increase next year to $154 million in capital spending.

Council will have its regular meeting today, where few major decisions will be made, but there are some interesting tidbits.

Coun. Ross Eadie will have one more chance to convince council to block a proposed four-plex housing development on his street. He will likely fail.

Community-club universal funding is reviewed every five years. City of Winnipeg administrators are recommending an 8.1 per cent increase to the universal-funding formula for community clubs, the same rate as the rate of inflation over the past five years.

The street Mostyn Place will be changed to Granite Way to commemorate the Granite Curling Club’s 100th anniversary.

City council will be able to use the Canadian-based Green Globe environmental certification, rather than just LEED certification, to proclaim a building “environmentally friendly.”

Winnipeg Police Services will be the proud owners of two more automated licence-plate readers, paid for by MPI — to the tune of $60,000.

Several committees will see citizens appointed to their board, including former councillor Gord Steeves, who has applied to be on the Winnipeg Convention Centre board.

No one from the province has stepped up to be on the board for the historical buildings committee or the housing rehabilitation committee, even though provincial representation is available and desired.

1 news

Thinking of a career reboot? The Challenge Factory offers its clients the novel opportunity to “test drive” careers. Scan code for story.

To scan 2D barcodes in Metro, download the free ScanLife app at 2dscan.com.

On the web at metronews.ca

Transit riders in the U.K. are doing their best to keep pace with their Canadian counterparts’ bizarre behaviour. Video at metronews.ca.

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Gunman kills Belgian shoppers

Hundreds flee as grenades lobbed into market, bullets fired
Attacker found dead at scene

Summoned for questioning by Belgian police, a man with a history of weapons and drug offences left home armed with hand grenades, a revolver and an assault rifle. Stopping at a central square filled with holiday shoppers, he lobbed three grenades into the crowd, then opened fire.

Four people were killed, including an 18-month-old toddler, and 122 were wounded in the assault yesterday that brought tragedy to the pre-Christmas season of students revelling in exam results and preschoolers enchanted by brightly lit trees and holiday stalls.

Authorities said the shooter also died.

The midday attack in the eastern Belgian city of Liege sent hundreds of panicked shoppers stampeding down the cobbled streets of the old city, fleeing explosions and bullets.

Belgian authorities identified the shooter as Nordine Amrani, a 33-year-old Liege resident who had done jail time for offences involving guns and drugs, and had been called in for questioning in a sexual abuse case.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Recent attacks

- **In Italy yesterday,** a man opened fire in an outdoor market in Florence, killing two vendors from Senegal and wounding three other immigrants before killing himself. Investigators identified the attacker as 50-year-old Gianluca Casseri, and RAI state TV said he was known to police for having participated in racist marches by an extreme right-wing group.
- **In Norway last July,** far-right extremist Anders Behring Breivik went on a bomb and shooting spree that killed 77 people around Oslo.

ERMINDO ARMINO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Police officers guard the street, following a grenade attack in the city centre of Liege, Belgium, yesterday.

Brother made up story: Crown

A Montreal family accused of killing three children concocted a story that could help absolve them of guilt and told a surviving child to go along with it — but he slipped up, prosecutors alleged in court yesterday.

Mohammad Shafia, 58, his wife Tooba Yahya, 42, and their son Hamed, 20, have told police that the night of the deaths, their eldest daughter came into their motel room to borrow the car keys.

The Crown alleges the women were killed before the family checked into the motel.

Another brother was under cross-examination yesterday, and Crown attorney Gerard Laarhuis hammered him about his statement to police that Zainab came to the motel room that night to borrow his cellphone. Laarhuis suggested that never happened, and that inconsistent statements to police that it might have been his mother who wanted to borrow his phone, point to a mistake on his part. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Inmate takes prison worker hostage

A corrections employee taken hostage by an inmate was freed after a nine-hour ordeal Tuesday at a federal prison in Quebec's Eastern Townships.

The inmate barricaded himself in a room in the Cowansville penitentiary, locking himself there with the worker who was in the area with him.

Correctional Service of Canada said nobody was injured in the incident at the medium-security prison, which holds 410 male inmates.

Authorities wouldn't confirm the victim was female." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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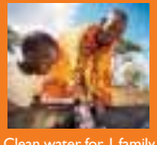
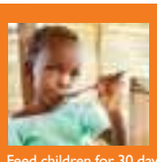

Clean water for 1 family
$100 (1362)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Time. Out

▶ A shopper takes a rest with purchases at Northpark Mall in Ridgeland, Miss., on Nov. 25.

VICKIE D. KING/THE CLARION-LEDGER, FILE PHOTO

Retail sales keep rising

Americans spent more on autos, furniture and clothing last month as retail sales rose for the sixth straight month.

Debt up while income down

Canadian household debt rises about twice rate of income: StatsCan

Canadians keep taking on more debt even as they get poorer, a new Statistics Canada report shows

Average household debt hit a new record high of almost 153 per cent to disposable income in the third quarter, a sizable jump from 150.7 per cent the previous quarter, the agency reported yesterday.

As well, household net worth declined by 2.1 per cent to $180,100 from $184,700, the sharpest drop in almost three years.

The report came after Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney again warned about the dangers of household debt poses to the economy going forward.

But analysts cautioned against taking too dark a view over household finances. "It's not black and white," said Benjamin Tal, a CIBC World Markets economist. Most debt accumulation is from mortgages, and unlike the U.S. before the sub-prime fiasco, the segment of home buyers considered "marginal" in Canada is very small.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. YESTERDAY

TSX	Dollar
- 147.95 (11,759.94)	- 0.79¢ (96.69¢ US)

Oil	Natural gas	Gold
+ $2.37 US ($100.14 US)	$3.279 US (+ 2.5¢ US)	$1,663.10 US (- $5.10 US)

JUSTIN SULLIVAN/GETTY IMAGES

▶ A McDonald's employee in San Francisco, Calif.

McDonald's racks up bill on lobbying

McDonald's Corp. spent $460,000 lobbying the U.S. government in the third quarter, on issues including immigration, menu labelling and debit card fees.

That amount represented a 48 per cent increase from the same period a year ago, when it spent $310,000 on federal lobbying costs, according to disclosure reports. It was also up from the second quarter, when it spent $370,000.

The world's biggest burger chain lobbied Congress, the White House, the Department of Labor and the Department of Health and Human Services on the sweeping health-care changes that were signed into law in March 2010.

The new health-care rules will require more companies to offer health-care insurance to employees. McDonald's also homed in on part of the law that would require more restaurants to add calorie information to menus. It also said it lobbied on proposed new federal guidelines that would curb marketing junk food to children and a new law that gives the Food and Drug Administration more authority over food suppliers.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RETIREMENT

Pre-retirees plan but don't do: Survey

Nearly three-quarters of Canadian pre-retirees plan to spend their retirement years travelling, but a new poll indicates only 58 per cent of retirees actually do.

While 30 per cent of pre-retirees think they'll become snowbirds — spending winters in the southern U.S., for example — the survey conducted by RBC says only 14 per cent actually take on that lifestyle.

The poll found the number of nearly retired Canadians expecting to become snowbirds rose to 30 per cent in 2011 from 28 per cent on 2010. However, the number who flocked south dropped to 14 per cent this year from 17 per cent in 2010. It also found a majority planned to do volunteer work but only 41 per cent of women and 35 per cent of men actually do volunteer. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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WINNIPEG - MANITOBA
The downturn in the economy has affected most people and their ability to get a car and automotive credit. Credit agencies have become very critical with credit scores and many lenders have significantly changed the criteria for someone to qualify for an auto loan. Many car shoppers today are being turned down because of their credit history. Credit Amnesty 2011 has signed an agreement with a CREDIT TO ANYONE REGARDLESS OF CREDIT SCORE. Every and any past credit problem will be accepted and approved regardless of bankruptcy, divorce, tax liens, judgements, vehicle repossessions and charge offs.

Bank Authorized Processors On Site for Instant Approvals
The management and finance staff of Credit Amnesty 2011 were flown to Toronto and trained to be lending representatives for a national leader who has been lending to credit challenged consumers in an effort to give consumers the opportunity to re-establish their credit one payment at a time. Credit Amnesty 2011 will now deliver credit approvals to every consumer they enter into the patented Credit Approval Processing System within 60 seconds. Doug MacIver, General Manager at Credit Amnesty 2011 proudly says, "we provide opportunity where others can't."

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Life Changing Program
Without our product, consumers are often unable to purchase a vehicle or they purchase an unreliable one and are not provided the opportunity to improve their credit standing. As we report to all major financial national credit reporting agencies, a significant number of our customers improve their lives by improving their credit score and move on to more traditional sources of financing. We have the late model vehicles people want and the ones that will qualify for this type of funding. The only thing that will affect your ability not to be approved is no down payment. And with that being said we are not here to put someone in a car that does not match their ability to pay, we want this to be a successful process that will allow those with credit problems to rebuild their lives. I know they will benefit from this program and they will always come back to us to buy a car.
From what we were told in Toronto, business starts coming in from referrals, from our own customers who find out this program is for real. They usually tell all their family and friends about it. "This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for someone to come in to us and drive home a nice car and rebuild their credit," adds Doug. Our staff has even told their families and friends to come down and we've notified some local companies and their employees to come down as well to take advantage of these great opportunities to rebuild your credit.
CAR proof HISTORY REPORTS are available on every vehicle. You can drive home with confidence that you know what you are buying. If I were in the market for a quality pre-owned certified vehicle, I would definitely come down early for the best selection."

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AREN'T YOU PEOPLE SUPPOSED TO BE STRAPPED FOR CASH?

JUST SAYIN' ...

PAUL SULLIVAN
METRO

Here's a Christmas question.

If 40 per cent of Canadians plan to do some or all of their holiday shopping online, up 11 per cent over last year, why am I stalled in this two-block lineup waiting to turn into the mall?

You'd expect the malls to be decked with 40 per cent fewer shoppers. Not only that, there's a recession on, people. Aren't you supposed to be at home shivering in the dark instead of standing in front of me at the checkout, your arms full of holiday goodies, while your annoying children cling to you, wheedling for more?

Something doesn't add up here.

Think about it. Walmart is open 24-7. You could shop at 3 a.m. and avoid me and the rush altogether. Of course, for all I know, there could be lineups at 3 a.m. too. I'm not curious enough to find out.

"It's simply not necessary to go out at peak hours, which are defined as those times when I like to do my own Christmas shopping: between 2 and 4 p.m. on weekends, prior to or immediately after my afternoon nap."

Then there's Amazon, eBay, Indigo, Best Buy, etc., where you can buy all your presents on your phone and angels in brown uniforms will deliver them overnight.

And you can pick up gift cards for anything from iTunes to African safaris at the gas station or the drug store.

It's simply not necessary to go out at peak hours, which are defined as those times when I like to do my own Christmas shopping: between 2 and 4 p.m. on weekends, prior to or immediately after my afternoon nap.

Somehow the message isn't getting through. This year, I may have to do my Christmas shopping on Dec. 28, which is far enough away from Boxing Day, which is just another excuse for people to get in my way.

I'm sure friends and loved ones won't mind. There's usually a big letdown after all the presents are unwrapped, and there's not much to look forward to other than four to six more months of winter. Getting thoughtful gifts on December 28 will be a surprise treat.

Look, it's not all bad. When I got to the mall near my place this past weekend, it was a zoo, as expected, but some marketing genius decided to offer valet parking: eight bucks. Drive up, hand the family SUV over to a professional, and walk directly into the mall. Best eight bucks I ever spent.

And my wife had just enough Christmas spirit left to bake the traditional family dark Christmas cakes. I helped by waiting until she had them all wrapped and stored, and only then snuck into the kitchen and plundered at will.

There are some things you just can't do online.

Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsaying

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

What is your gift-purchasing strategy?

I KEEP A LOOK-OUT FOR THE PERFECT GIFT YEAR-ROUND AND BUY THEM AS I FIND THEM
33%
0% HOMEMADE GIFTS, ALL THE WAY
33%
I STICK TO A FEW GO-TO STORES
33%
I BUY EVERYONE ON MY LIST SOMETHING FROM THE SAME STORE

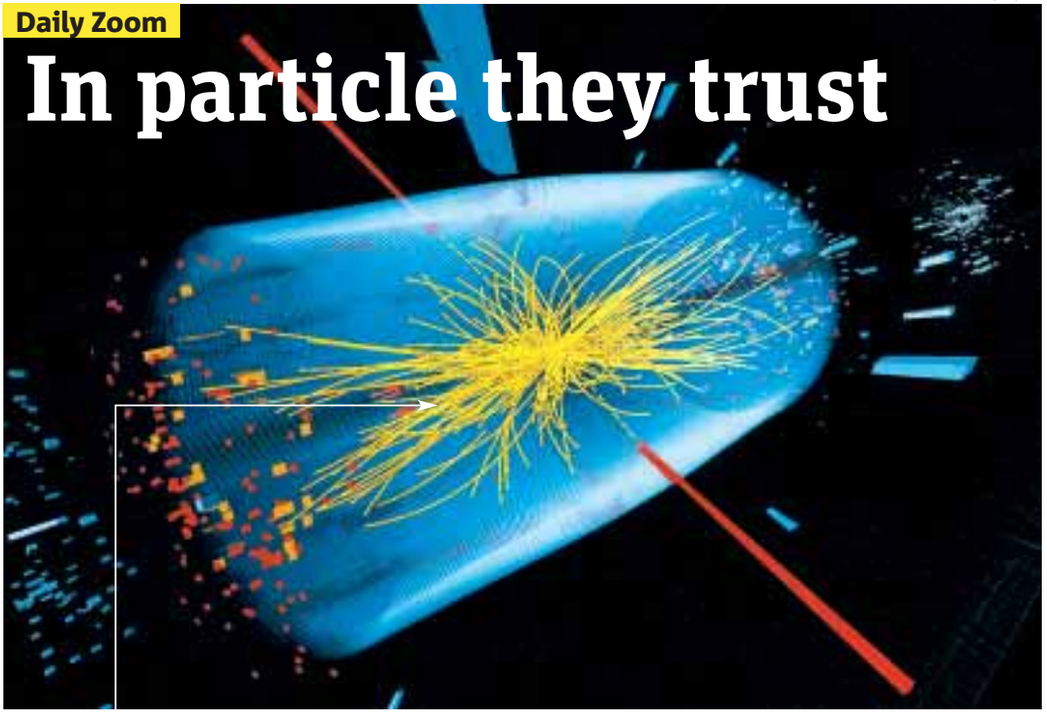
Local tweets

- **@StacyDemy:** These charities in winnipeg are just too much. When is enough for these groups. Millions of dollars every year, where does it all go.
- **@darrenklassen:** Loving all the Winnipeg Jets license plates all over the city today. #gojetsgo
- **@Hockeygirl2424:** Had a dream last night that I was at the beach in December, I think the warm weather in Winnipeg is getting to me. #GlobalWarming
- **@HockeyRef13:** I think I'd be upset about having to leave Tampa for Winnipeg. Then I'd realize I play in the NHL and not care.
- **@colincraig1:** Over 500 people have called/emailed about photo radar unit on Grant. Conspiracy to complain about 1 partic unit or machine wrong? #winnipeg
- **@Dave_Neckoway:** I think I'm on the bus that was on the speed movie
- **@jaackiecadiz:** What do you call a bear with no socks on? Barefoot... Lol
- **@LakenKesler:** I've been listening to the radio station and they've been playing the same songs all morning

THOMAS MCCAULEY AND LUCAS TAYLOR/CMS/CERN

Daily Zoom

In particle they trust



Hints of God particle found

GENEVA. Science collides with faith in the God particle. After two experiments using the Large Hadron Collider, the world's biggest atom smasher, scientists at CERN physics center say they have glimpses of the Higgs boson subatomic particle, the last missing link in understanding the universe.

METRO WORLD NEWS

"It would be extremely kind of the Higgs boson to be here. It's too early (to say for sure)."

FABIOLA GIANOTTI, SCIENTIST AT LHC

How they find new particles

SCIENCE. Scientists at CERN have been firing particles in opposite directions around a 27-kilometre-long underground tunnel, known as the Large Hadron Collider. When particles reach near the speed of light, they crash into each other. The resulting debris is then examined for new particles.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Higgs boson

- **Last undiscovered particle.** It's a mysterious particle thought to give all particles mass.
- **To give all things shape.** This helps particles form atoms, which shapes everything in universe.
- **Famous nicknames.** The brick that built the universe, Angel of creation.

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Charlize Theron: Closet nerd

While talking about her latest film, Young Adult, Theron reveals excruciating details of her awkward youth and says that she doesn't need another Oscar

HEIDI PATALANO
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN NEW YORK

PHILLIP V. CARUSO

▶ Charlize Theron plays Mavis Gary in Young Adult.

It would probably be nice for Charlize Theron to get an Oscar for her performance in Jason Reitman's latest film, Young Adult.

Most critics seem to think she deserves one. But Theron herself notes: "I can't even think about anything like that … And plus I have an Oscar," she says, referencing her win for 2003's Monster. She catches herself with a laugh. "That was such an asshole thing to say."

Maybe the 36-year-old is just channeling her inner jerk because that's the nature of her character in the film, Mavis Gary, a divorced, young adult author and all-around mess. Gary returns to her hometown to track down her high school boyfriend, now married with a new baby, in the hopes of rekindling their romance. While promoting the film, which was penned by Oscar-winning screenwriter Diablo Cody, Theron revealed some of her own Mavis-like behaviours.

So much of the press for this film discusses what an unsympathetic character Mavis is. How do you see her?
I thought that the things she did were pretty despicable but then again, not to the point where I was disgusted by her. I never had a hard time not liking her.

I would love to go and have a beer with her. I would never let her hang out with my boyfriend. …

What I liked when I read Diablo's script was the idea of a woman who is dealing with very common mid to late 30s issues that women can really relate to but because of how she went through life, is dealing with them the way a 16-year-old would deal with them.

She says things like, "don't you know love conquers all?" I mean, it's like the typical 16-year-old would say that and here she is 37, trying to get her life together and she just doesn't have the tools to do it.

With this and Bridesmaids we're seeing more of women behaving badly. Do you consider this a step forward?
I talked a lot about this when I did Monster. I think people get kind of freaked out when they see real women, conflicted. I think women are almost way more conflicted than men and I think we come from a society where we're very comfortable with the Madonna/Whore complex.

We're either really good hookers or really good mothers. But we're not bad hookers and we're not bad mothers and we're nothing in between.

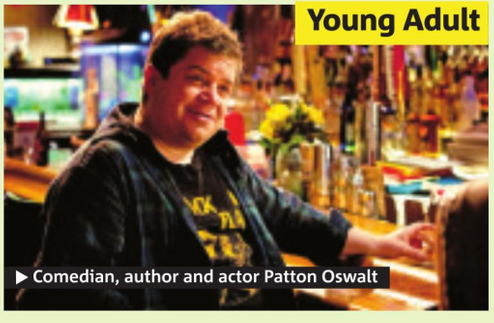
I grew up on cinema where guys got to do that — Gene Hackman and Dustin Hoffman and DeNiro got to play all those characters that I saw a little bit of myself in — those kinds of struggles and the lurking dark things.

I think women are getting a chance to play those kind of honest characters and also, people keep saying, "it's so brave!" It really isn't. It's just refreshing.

Glasses girl

Theron talks about her high school experience: "I wasn't in the popular crowd. I went to an arts school. I was obsessed with ballet. I wore really, really nerdy glasses. I was as blind as could be and boys don't really like big nerdy glasses. I had a massive crush on this guy that this interviewer who just did a story on me for Vogue actually found. This guy did not know I existed in school and he was all "yeah, tell her the crush was mutual." F— that. It was so not mutual. And then it was like, "I remember she wore those glasses."

Young Adult



▶ Comedian, author and actor Patton Oswalt

'GOOD TIMES CAN KEEP HAPPENING, JUST NOT THE SAME ONES'

"How f—king amazing was she in this movie?" Patton Oswalt asks when one of Charlize Theron's scenes in Young Adult is mentioned. Playing the sidekick to a woman on a mission to seduce her married high school boyfriend, Oswalt went to great lengths to get his character right.

You used an acting coach for the first time with this role. Why did you think this character merited that kind of preparation?
Because the script was so good but there was so much nuance and so much of a delicate tightrope back and forth between despair and humour. The humour never came out of "let's stick a joke here." The humour came out of real human behaviour. I had this mix of exhilaration for being offered the script and then terror. I didn't want to do wrong by it because it was so well-written.

The film has to do with sentimentality and trying to bring the past into the present. Are you ever tempted to do that?
It's very dangerous. I'm just as guilty of it as anyone else. I think Frank Zappa said, "some day we're all going to die of nostalgia." Nostalgia is also an anagram for lost again. You have to keep moving forward because a big part of life is loss… It's almost like if you want the same good times to keep happening, that's what's dangerous. Good times can keep happening, just not the same ones and if you expect to be the same person having the same good time, then that's also really dangerous.

HEIDI PATALANO

2 scene

Box office

Charlie Sheen is returning to CTV with his new sitcom Anger Management. Sheen made the announcement Monday night with an on-air message that aired after his old show Two and a Half Men. Sheen was famously fired from the show after his volatile personal life and ridicule of the show's producer exploded in the tabloids. His new sitcom is loosely based on the 2003 film of the same name. Sheen plays an anger management therapist whose methods wreak havoc on the lives of his patients. "You seem like the nicest people in the world," Sheen said in the short broadcast. "But I know the truth. You're holding in a lot of anger. Why else would you drink so much beer, put on shoes with sharp blades, and smack each other around with wooden sticks?"
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bosnian Serb war victim says Angelina Jolie's film should be banned, says it vilifies Serbs.

Bullock suffers from first world problems

To spoil kids or not? Actress struggles with hard questions at Christmas

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Sandra Bullock is torn over what sort of Christmas to give her 2-year-old son, Louis.

"The less you give, the less they'll expect. And that way, if I give him nothing, he won't remember and he won't expect it next year and it's cheaper," Bullock tells Access Hollywood of the more frugal option. On the other hand, "I want the photo ops to be really great because he's not going to remember it, but he'll remember it by the photos and when he's 16 and says, 'I hate you — you're a horrible mother,'" she jokes. "I'll go, 'Do you see this Christmas? Do you see that I got you that life-size lion? Shut up! Get in your room and do your homework. I was a good mother then.'" METRO

"I want the photo ops to be really great because he's not going to remember it but he'll remember it by the photos "
SANDRA BULLOCK

Sandra Bullock

Talking points

wounds of the heart, ex says

SUCK IT UP NANCY. To hear ex-boyfriend Louis Dowler tell it, Kate Winslet is a real heartbreaker.

"I don't think Kate behaved well and it is still very raw for me," Dowler tells the Daily Mail.

The pair dated after Winslet's divorce from director Sam Mendes, though she's since moved on to dating Ned Rocknroll, Richard Branson's nephew.

"I was in love with her and you can't switch that off overnight. I'm not sure Kate treated me well," admits Dowler.

"She met my parents and family. I thought we were inseparable. I certainly haven't found anyone else since." METRO

Ryan Reynolds getting Lively

BLAKE LIGHTING HIS LANTERN Blake Lively and Ryan Reynolds were reportedly "very cuddly" during a midmorning double date in NYC recently with Lively's older sister and brother-in-law, according to Us Weekly.

The Green Lantern co-stars and happy couple were "poking each other, giggling, and even seen leaning on each other in the booth," a source says.

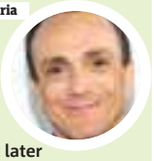
The brunch wasn't without incident, though, as Lively "hit her head on a lamp as (she sat down in the booth) and put a napkin jokingly on her head." METRO

Celebrity tweets

"I think people gossip because their own lives are un-gossip worthy...Live a gossip worthy life...;)"
@kirstiealley

@katyperry

"Made the switch to iPhone ...now just waiting to grow thumbs..."

@HankAzaria

"In my hometown there was a fondue place that later became a crepe place. Then it became a french toast palace. The first 2 facts are true."

@SteveMartinToGo

"NEWS: Discovery of a black hole the size of nearly 10 billion Suns. Oh, please. Yawn. I'm nominated for a Grammy."

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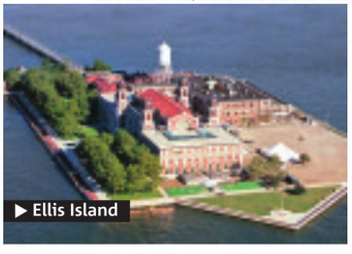
Channeling New York Chutzpah

New York City has the highest concentration of Jews outside of Israel ◐ Nosh on kosher food, watch the lighting of a massive menorah and visit some historic sites ◐ Mazel Tov!

Ellis Island

An obvious place to start is Ellis Island, where the ancestors of so many American Jews first set foot on U.S. soil. Boats run from Battery Park — schedules at statuecruises.com — to the National Park site in New York Harbor. The Ellis Island museum offers a wealth of artifacts connected to Jewish immigrants, including a photo of a kosher kitchen that opened on the island in 1911 and an eye chart with a line of Hebrew letters.

MARTY LEDERHANDLER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO



▶ Ellis Island

Kutsher's

BETH HARPAZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Kutsher's

Kutsher's Tribeca, which opened in November at 186 Franklin St., is the brainchild of Zach Kutsher, whose grandparents ran Kutsher's Country Club, a popular Catskills resort in its mid-20th century heyday. The menu reinvents and updates favourite Jewish comfort foods, offering savoury brisket meatballs, chopped liver made from duck, and yummy matzo ball soup with dill. You can even order caviar with your latkes — though the roe is not from sturgeon, which isn't kosher. On Dec. 25, Kutsher's will offer a special Chinese-themed menu in honour of the American Jewish tradition of going out for Chinese food on Christmas Day.

Light the menorah

During Hanukkah, the Chabad-Lubavitch Jewish outreach organization sponsors the lighting of a massive menorah, about 10 metres tall, on Fifth Avenue and 59th Street near Central Park, between Dec. 20-27. Candles are lit at 5:30 p.m., except for the Sabbath, with a 3:30 p.m. lighting on Dec. 23 and an 8:30 p.m. lighting on Dec. 24.

LUBAVITCH YOUTH ORGANIZATION/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Menorah on Fifth Avenue and 59th Street

Go to Synagogue

Heading north, where Chinatown runs into the Lower East Side, you'll find the Eldridge Street Synagogue, 12 Eldridge St., eldridgestreet.org. It was founded in 1887 as the first great house of worship built by Eastern European Jews in the U.S. In 2007, after a 20-year, $18 million restoration, a museum opened on site about the synagogue and local Jewish history.

Other worthwhile stops include the Bialystoker Synagogue, organized in 1865 and housed in an 1826 fieldstone Federal style building at 7-11 Willett St.; and the Lower East Side Jewish Conservancy, which offers walking tours on New York Jewish history and operates a storefront visitor centre at 400 Grand St.

KATHY WILLENS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ The Ten Commandments displayed over the altar at the Eldridge Street Synagogue.

Museum of Jewish Heritage

THEW JEWISH MUSEUM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Hanukkah lamp from the 1920s at the museum.

The Museum of Jewish Heritage is in Battery Park City. Through summer 2012, the museum is hosting a fascinating exhibit about Emma Lazarus. Lazarus' sonnet The New Colossus with its famous line "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses," is engraved on a tablet in the Statue of Liberty's pedestal, and Lady Liberty can be seen from the museum windows. Lazarus was born in New York to an old Sephardic Jewish family; a letter about religious freedom from her great-great uncle to George Washington is part of the show. The Museum of Jewish Heritage was created as a memorial to those who perished in the Holocaust.

The Lower East Side Tenement Museum

The Lower East Side Tenement Museum at 97 Orchard St., tenement.org, is housed in a building that dates to 1863, but it was a time capsule when the museum acquired it in 1996: Its apartments had been sealed off since 1935. Tours now tell the stories of the people who lived there. The building housed immigrants from various backgrounds, but some tours focus on Jewish families.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KEIKO NIWA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ One of the apartments at the museum.

The Jewish Children's Museum

The Jewish Children's Museum, in Crown Heights, Brooklyn (792 Eastern Parkway, Kingston Avenue stop on the No. 3 train), offers hands-on interactive exhibits about holidays and culture along with a climbing wall for young children and a minigolf course. Kids can crawl through a challah bread tunnel and go shopping in a kosher supermarket jcm.museum.

3 life

Travel in brief

A "snow village" to be set up in Montreal's Jean Drapeau Park — complete with hotel, restaurant, bar, conference centre and chapel, all made out of ice and snow — will be a North American first, organizers say. The $2.1-million project — mostly funded by a group of Quebec entrepreneurs and $100,000 from Tourism Quebec — is scheduled to open Jan. 6. The backers say they encountered the snow village concept in Lainiotie, Finland, and decided to bring it to Montreal in a more elaborate version.
The 0.6-hectare site will feature replicas of Montreal buildings, lighted snow tunnels, a maze and slides.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Chabad sponsors public menorah lightings in more than 70 countries for Hanukkah

Keep it simple — and impress

This meat dish, which looks fancy but doesn't require much work, is ideal for entertaining

HOLIDAY HELPER

EMILY RICHARDS
FOOD@METRONEWS.CA

Simple and tasty are key to helping you entertain this season and beef is the perfect choice!

Ask your butcher for a tri-tip roast for this recipe as the texture of meat is tender and juicy.

You can also use your favourite beef roasts such as a strip loin, rib or sirloin tip roast.

Serve it up with mashed potatoes or creamy polenta.

Ingredients:

- 2 tbsp (30 mL) each extra virgin olive oil, sundried tomato pesto, aged balsamic vinegar
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) soy sauce
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) roasted garlic and peppers spice mix
- 1 tsp (5 mL) herbes de provence
- 1 bottom sirloin tri-tip oven roast about 2 lb/1 kg

Preparation:

1. In small bowl, stir together oil, pesto, vinegar, soy sauce, spice mix and herbes de provence until combined. Spread all over roast and place on rack in roasting pan.
2. Oven sear the roast by placing it in a preheated 450 F (230 C) oven for 10 minutes.
3. Reduce heat to 275 F (140 C) and cook for about 1 hour and 45 minutes or until meat thermometer registers 145 F (63 C) for medium rare or to desired doneness.
4. Remove from oven, cover loosely with foil and let rest for about 15 minutes. Slice thinly to serve. **EMILY RICHARDS IS A PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR & TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA**

Holiday prep

We're here to help
Next Wednesday is the final edition of Emily Richard's Holiday Helper. Check out metronews.ca/food for past editions.

EMILY RICHARDS

Drink of the week

Isle of Mull

Scotch is the perfect winter drink, whether it's après-ski or after dinner. Sadly, the liquor was mostly forgotten by the cocktail revolution. For something more contemporary than a Rusty Nail, try this drink.

- 1.25 oz blended Scotch whisky
- .5 oz Bénédictine
- .25 oz Stone's Green Ginger Wine
- dash of Fee's Plum Bitters
- dash of cherry juice

Build in a rocks glass, and garnish with sour cherries soaked in whisky. **JOE HOWELL, TORONTO BARTENDER**

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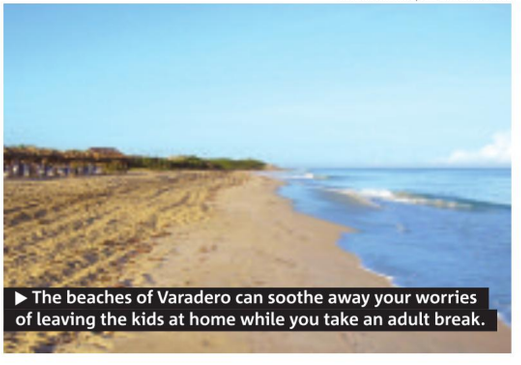
Cuba, without kids

Take a break from the hustle of family life with a kid-free holiday It will make you a better parent

ROMINA MAURINO/THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ The beaches of Varadero can soothe away your worries of leaving the kids at home while you take an adult break.

You've spent sleepless nights nursing sick kids, early mornings getting everyone out the door for work and school, and weekends juggling activities, chores and homework.

It's time for a break — without the kids. While the first few days might be difficult and you'll fret about your offspring you left behind with grandma and grandpa, Cuba's charms will be hard to resist.

You'll soon ease yourself into endless hours of beach, warm, salty ocean water and no more responsibilities than walking to the buffet for a meal.

Varadero is one of the most visited beach destinations in Cuba, with endless resorts dotting its 21 kilometres of beaches, a commercial downtown and friendly staff determined to make sure tourists enjoy themselves enough to return time and time again.

Tourism is a key driver of Cuba's economy and Varadero's resorts know how to make people feel welcome. Some recommend the more tranquil, secluded beaches of Cayo Coco, but Varadero also has the advantage of being about a two-hour drive from Havana, a must-see for anyone interested in Cuban culture. With the option of a day trip to Havana, Varadero offers the perfect combination of relaxing beach vacation and cultural experience, a great balance for overtired, stressed-out parents looking to recharge. It's also the kind of initiative parenting expert Alyson Schafer says parents need to take for their well-being, as well as that of their children. "Everybody feels guilty, certainly the first time, and probably more if (the kids) are younger," said Schafer, a psychotherapist and the author of the book Ain't Misbehavin'. "It's just a matter of giving parents the confidence that it's a healthy thing to be able to hand our kids off and trust that ... other people can actually care for our kids."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

DISMISSAL DILEMMA

Case demonstrates again that resignations put forth under pressure are likely to be considered dismissals

WORKPLACE LAW

DANIEL LUBLIN
DAN@CANADA EMPLOYMENTLAWYER.COM
TWITTER: @DANLUBLIN

Following a bad day at work and thinking that he would be fired, Philip Chan elected to resign instead. However, in another tale from the workplace trenches with an ending you would not expect, a court found that Chan's resignation was actually a termination.

Chan, the general manager of a busy Denny's restaurant in Langley, B.C., had his fair share of problems with his supervisor, who had repeatedly criticized his performance.

Although Chan had been well-regarded within the company, by May 2009 the tone and content of the communication from his boss led him to believe that he would soon be fired. Matters came to a head when Chan was given the choice of being dismissed or resigning.

For Chan, "saving face" was paramount, so he resigned rather than face dismissal.

However, at the urging of another senior employee, Chan soon returned to his job. His content with his boss would not last long.

After another hectic day at the restaurant, Chan's manager came to him once more and said that he could choose to resign or else he would be fired. Again, faced with the possibility of explaining his termination to prospective employers, Chan opted to resign. He drafted a letter confirming his decision and left work.

This time, however, although Chan's departure was permanent, he was not about to go quietly. Chan recently sued Denny's, arguing that the ultimatum he was given was tantamount to a dismissal.

At a recent trial, the judge drew a clear bright line between an employee who voluntarily leaves and one who is told he will otherwise be fired.

DANIEL LUBLIN IS AN EMPLOYMENT LAWYER WITH WHITTEN & LUBLIN LLP. TO READ THIS ARTICLE IN ITS ENTIRETY VISIT METRONEWS.CA

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4 sports

Little comes up big in win

Bryan Little's 11th goal of the season came at the end of a Wild penalty in the third period

JETS	WILD
2	1

TREVOR HAGAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Winnipeg Jets, from left, Bryan Little, Zach Bogosian and Blake Wheeler celebrate after Bogosian scored to even the game at one against the Minnesota Wild last night in Winnipeg.

Bryan Little scored on the power play with five minutes remaining in regulation yesterday to lift the Winnipeg Jets to a 2-1 victory over the Minnesota Wild.

The loss halted NHL-leading Minnesota's winning streak at seven games. It also ended the Wild's road win streak at seven games, the longest in the league so far this season.

Zach Bogosian had the other goal for Winnipeg, while Guillaume Latendresse replied for Minnesota.

Ondrej Pavelec made 34 saves for the Jets, who have won eight of their last nine game at home. Niklas Backstrom stopped 25 shots in defeat.

Dustin Byfuglien and Blake Wheeler assisted on Little's goal, which came at the end of a slick passing play.

Minnesota went on the power play with 1:06 left to go in the third when Bogosian was called for boarding and a game misconduct but the Wild couldn't find a way past Pavelec.

Backstrom made a couple of key saves late in the scoreless first period before Minnesota scored 4:39 into the second on a two-man advantage.

Latendresse took a rebound off Mikko Koivu's shot and put the puck over Pavelec, who rolled on his back to try to make the save.

The assist extended Koivu's point streak to five games.

Dany Heatley, playing in his 700th NHL game, also assisted on the goal to extend his point streak to seven games.

The lead lasted less than four minutes as the Jets started swarming around Minnesota's end.

Bogosian scored his first of the season when he stopped a clearing attempt, put the puck down and fired a shot from just inside the blue-line that beat Backstrom at 8:37.

The Jets had a goal waved off because of goaltender interference with 2:46 left in the period.

The game was the first of a six-game homestand for the Jets, who upped their record to 14-12-4 in front of a crowd of 15,004 at MTS Centre.

Minnesota was playing its last contest of a five-game road trip and dropped to 20-8-3. The Wild's 43 points is two ahead of Philadelphia, which beat Washington 5-1 yesterday.

Streak busted

- Minnesota's loss ended their seven-game winning streak.
- The team's longest winning streak in franchise history was nine games in 2007.

Winnipeg hosts Washington on Thursday, while Minnesota is home to Chicago on Wednesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"I am deeply honoured to win this very special and very historic award. ... To be recognized with this award for something I love to do, which is figure skate, means so much."

CANADIAN FIGURE SKATER PATRICK CHAN, AFTER WINNING THE 2011 LOU MARSH AWARD YESTERDAY. THE 20-YEAR-OLD FROM TORONTO WON THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS LAST SPRING IN MOSCOW, SETTING THREE WORLD SCORING RECORDS, AND WON THE GRAND PRIX FINAL LAST WEEKEND IN QUEBEC CITY TO CAP AN UNDEFEATED SEASON. THE HONOUR — DECIDED BY A PANEL OF NATIONAL SPORTS EDITORS, REPORTERS AND BROADCASTERS — IS GIVEN ANNUALLY TO CANADA'S OUTSTANDING ATHLETE BY THE TORONTO STAR.

Flyers' Giroux latest star felled by concussion

CHRISTIAN PETERSEN/GETTY IMAGES FILE

▶ Claude Giroux

Philadelphia Flyers star Claude Giroux is out indefinitely with a concussion.

Flyers general manager Paul Holmgren said yesterday that Giroux's symptoms have become worse since he suffered a head injury against Tampa Bay last week.

"He skated a little bit today; didn't feel that good. Just didn't feel like himself," Holmgren said last night in Washington before the Flyers faced the Capitals. "I don't know that there's any good news in this other than after 15 minutes or so, once he stopped skating, he did start to feel a little better."

39

Claude Giroux leads the NHL with 39 points and has led the Flyers to the top of the Eastern Conference standings.

The immediate treatment will be rest.

"We're just going to take it easy with Claude," Holmgren said. "We'll probably just give him some time off (today) and revisit again (tomorrow). Obviously we're concerned. Claude is one of our better players and obviously is off to a great start this season. We're going to err on the side of caution."

Giroux took an inadvertent knee to the head by teammate Wayne Simmonds near the end of the second period on Saturday.

The Flyers said on Monday that Giroux had been feeling better. But another examination yesterday found Giroux has a concussion.

Giroux leads the Flyers with 16 goals and 23 assists. His 39 points were three ahead of Toronto's Phil Kessel for the NHL lead heading into last night.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JIL MCINTOSH/FOR METRO

▶ The 2013 Audi Q5 Hybrid will be available in Canada next summer.

Gazing into the not-so-distant future

Audi prepares to enter the hybrid fray in Canada next year with its Q5 Hybrid

As writer Jil McIntosh tells us, it's definitely fun to drive, especially in 'Sport' mode

JIL MCINTOSH
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

When they were introduced, gasoline-electric hybrids were small, basic cars. As the technology matured, so did the vehicles, and today, most premium brands include hybrids in their lineup — as Audi will, when the hybrid version of its Q5 compact SUV goes on sale next summer.

Although they pay more for their vehicles initially, premium-vehicle owners still don't want to spend a lot at the pumps, and they appreciate the fuel savings a hybrid can provide.

That said, while exact pricing is yet to come, the Q5 Hybrid will cost around $55,000, about $10,000 more than the non-hybrid Q5 upon which it's based.

There has to be more than just fuel economy, and in this case, it's performance.

The Q5 Hybrid uses the turbocharged, direct-injection 2.0-litre four-cylinder from the regular Q5, with an eight-speed automatic transmission and the company's "Quattro" all-wheel-drive.

An electric motor is sandwiched between the engine and transmission, fed by a 72-cell lithium-ion battery pack mounted under the cargo floor.

The engine produces 211 horsepower and 258 lb-ft of torque, but when you mash the throttle, the electric motor can add a brief boost to 245 horsepower and 354 lb-ft of torque.

Since electric motors make their peak power right from the start — unlike gasoline engines, which have to rev up — the power surge is immediate.

This hybrid is great fun to drive.

It's a "full" hybrid (but you don't plug it into the wall), capable of starting and running solely on its battery at 60 km/h for up to three kilometres.

If you're already cruising, it can switch over to electricity at speeds of up to 100 km/h. Come to a stop and the gasoline engine shuts off, although all the electronics continue to function, including the electrically-operated air conditioning.

An animated display in the dash shows what type of power is being used.

The switch from gas to electric happens automatically, although if all the driving conditions are appropriate, you can hit a button to keep it in electric-only mode.

The Q5 is one of my favourites to drive, and when I piloted an early production version on an event in Spain, I discovered that the Hybrid is just more of the same. It's intelligently sized, it wraps around corners almost like a sports car, and it's light and agile even though the hybrid system adds 130 kilograms.

The electric steering is tuned to feel hydraulic, with excellent weight and feedback.

If you don't mind using a bit more gas, you can put the Q5 into "Sport" mode, which makes it feel even sharper on the curves.

The price will be a major factor, and the Q5 Hybrid will probably remain a relatively rare model on Canadian roads, but it's meant to pave the way for yet another innovation: the all-electric Audi E-Tron sports car, which will make the leap from concept to production next year.

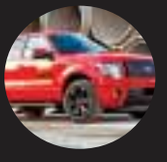
2013 Audi Q5

- **Engine:** Turbocharged 2.0-litre four-cylinder with hybrid system.
- **Power:** 211 hp/258 torque (gasoline engine); 245 hp/354 torque (maximum hybrid combined).
- **Fuel consumption:** TBA
- **On sale:** Summer 2012

Estimated price: $55,000

5 drive

Award Winner



Ford F-150 nabs Motor Trend honour

The Ford F-150 was named 2012 Truck of the Year by Motor Trend this week. The magazine felt the F-150 best met the award's six key criteria: engineering excellence, advancement in design, efficiency, safety, value, and performance of intended function. "The bottom line is that the F-150 simply excels at being ... a truck. It mastered every task we subjected it to," said Edward Loh, Motor Trend's editor-in-chief.

METRO

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A smart design in a small space

Because the Scion iQ is so tiny, engineers had to get creative

PHOTOS BY JIL MCINTOSH/FOR METRO

▶ The Scion iQ boasts what Toyota deems as the world's smallest air conditioning system.

DRIVING FORCE

JIL McINTOSH
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

▶ Fuel efficiency, agility and safety are all a part of the iQ's small package.

One of the major issues when designing a vehicle is space. Cars have a lot of components and only so much room in which to fit them. It was a considerable challenge for Toyota with the tiny iQ recently introduced in its Scion brand.

"We used a collection of different engineering approaches for different components, which allowed us to make this size of vehicle but still have the functionality of a larger vehicle," says John-Paul Farag, manager of advanced technology and powertrain for Toyota Canada.

"The vehicle must have fuel efficiency, agility and safety within a small package."

The first challenge was designing what Toyota says is the world's smallest air conditioning system. It isn't enough to simply downsize everything. If there isn't enough space between the fan blades, or if the blades are too thin, the system won't get enough air and it won't work properly.

The company had to come up with a new manufacturing technique to produce smaller but more rigid blades.

The blower and a/c unit were integrated into a single unit that fits behind the dash. Getting cold air to the occupants was also challenging. The engineers came up with a simplified design that reduced the number of curves in the ductwork, improving the airflow.

"There are always trade-offs," Farag says.

"You can't use a unit this small to cool a large SUV, but we think because of what we did with this unit, you may see some of these improvements incorporated into other vehicles."

The engine is a compact design, and a continuously variable transmission (CVT), which uses pulleys instead of gears, and was chosen not only for its fuel efficiency but because it's smaller than a regular automatic transmission.

The fuel tank is wider but much shallower than most tanks to fit under the rear seat and trunk without affecting interior space.

Space-saving tricks must also take passengers into account: the front seats were slimmed down for more interior space but their design still had to be comfortable.

A flat-bottom steering wheel provides more legroom for the driver. The dash uses an asymmetrical design that sits the front passenger further ahead than the driver for more rear-seat room, without affecting the driver's visibility.

"We were dealt a challenge with this vehicle for space, and we dealt with it by new engineering and designs," Farag says.

Did you know?

- It takes more fuel to move a car with a full tank of gas, due to its weight. The tanks are designed to carry just enough fuel for average driving use, since a larger tank will reduce fuel efficiency.

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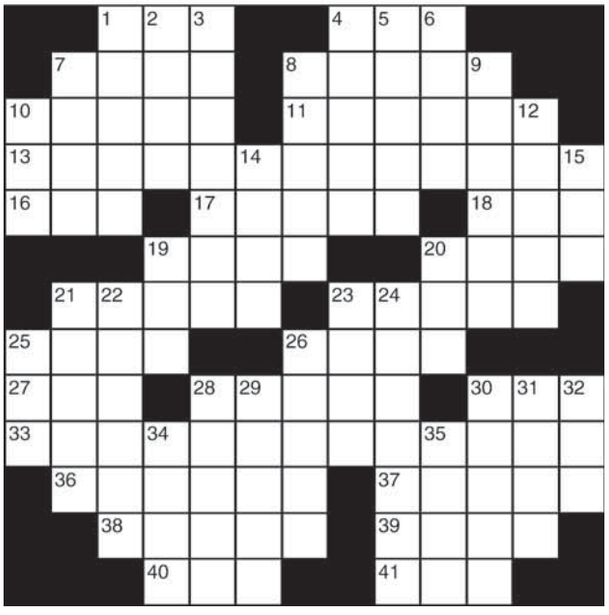
Crossword



Across

1 Suitable
4 Young boxer?
7 Litigious sort
8 Middle Eastern dish
10 Bethlehem's region
11 Ball game segment
13 New Orleans neighborhood
16 Barbie's companion
17 Hosiery shade
18 Shaft of light
19 "An Inconvenient Truth" narrator
20 Enticement
21 Chris of tennis lore
23 19th President
25 Leave out
26 Cartoonist Goldberg
27 Help
28 Inscribed pillar
30 "Suburgatory" airer
33 Ice cream flavor
36 Evening affair
37 Sorrow
38 Slow critter
39 Ear-related
40 Spring mo.
41 A Bobbsey twin

Down

1 Poet W.H.
2 Hammerhead part
3 Farm vehicle
4 Piece of cheesecake?
5 Arm bones
6 Twosome
7 Confident
8 Sharp irritation
9 False
10 NYC airport
12 Toothed wheels
14 Rodgers partner
15 "Catcher in the —"
19 Obtain
20 Caustic solution
21 Eastern potentates
22 "America's Funniest Home —"
23 Island dance
24 Desert
25 Lummox
26 Carouse
28 Discard
29 Alternative to "his/her"
30 Texas Hold 'em declaration
31 United nations
32 Automobile
34 1942 vessel
35 Tittle

▶ Yesterday's answer

M	O	L	E		B	R	O		C	U	B	A
E	X	A	M		R	E	D		O	P	A	L
S	E	R	E		A	N	D	I	R	O	N	S
A	N	D	R	O	I	D		C	O	N	D	O
			G	U	N		T	E	N			
A	L	G	E	R		A	N	D	A	N	T	E
B	E	A			A	N	T			O	H	M
A	N	D	O	R	R	A		O	A	S	E	S
			W	O	K		A	L	P			
D	I	A	N	A		A	N	D	O	V	E	R
A	N	D	E	R	S	O	N		G	A	L	E
S	T	I	R		A	N	I		E	R	S	E
H	O	T	S		W	E	E		E	Y	E	D

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Sudoku

6					9	1	2	
	3			8		6	4	
2			3					9
				3			8	2
		7				9		
3	1			9				
5					8			4
	4	2		7			6	
	8	1	4					5

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

4	5	8	7	6	9	2	1	3
1	6	2	8	3	5	7	4	9
3	9	7	1	4	2	8	5	6
6	4	3	5	2	8	9	7	1
8	7	1	4	9	6	3	2	5
9	2	5	3	7	1	6	8	4
2	3	4	6	5	7	1	9	8
7	1	6	9	8	4	5	3	2
5	8	9	2	1	3	4	6	7

Send a KISS

You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, online at metronews.ca/kiss.

Sonu,
Happy birthday!! Raise the ROOF :) soo cute...hope you have an amazing birthday!!! <3 **COCO**

ryan, you mean the world to me, i feel lucky to be with you. i love you. **YOUR ALWAYS**

Niko, Hi, babe i just want to say how happy i am to be with you, you're the greatest thing that has ever happened to me. I love you. Happy anniversary. :) **SHOWSTOPPER**

Robbie-Bear
to my husband of just over 4 months, and my best friend of more...no I don't think you're too intense, I will always appreciate your loves. We just need to allow each other room to grow together in marriage. Hope you are having a good day at McD's. **BOOBSTRESS**

A look at the weather

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Min -9°	Min -17°	Min -13°
Max -2°	Max -10°	Max -10°

Jenna Khan, Weather Specialist
"Weather impacts everything we do. Providing the information you need before you head out that door and take on the day is the best part of my morning." **WEEKDAYS 5:30 AM**

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

Today's horoscope

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 You may find it hard to get a straight answer out of certain people over the next 24 hours.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 Someone's dishonesty may shock you greatly, but you really should have noticed it before. Open your eyes.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 A colleague may be too vocal in his or her criticism, but there's an element of truth in what is said.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 If you take on too much, you will sooner or later reach a point where it starts to go wrong.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 Don't let anyone talk you out of doing something on which you have your heart set. You know it'll work.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 Someone in a position of power may be critical of your work today but don't let it get to you. Maybe he or she has a valid point.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 This is one of those times that if you let negative events get to you, your mood could be darkened for days.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 Yes, much may be falling apart — but much more still works beautifully.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 Push ahead with your plans today, even though others say you are aiming way too high.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 You're too negative in your outlook. Don't let it get out of hand.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 You should seek assistance from people whose knowledge about specific topics is superior to yours.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. Someone will deceive you today. Keep your annoyance to yourself. Revenge is a dish best served cold.

SALLY BROMPTON

Caption contest

SETH HARRISON/THE JOURNAL NEWS/AP

LIONEL CIRONNEAU/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WIN!

You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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Meet Leore.

She is an exotic blend of Moroccan, Israeli, Swedish and Italian, who was first discovered by American Apparel creative employees in a Valley surf shop. Leore is wearing the Unisex Winter Jacket and Unisex Fine Jersey Tank.

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